

Lakkia language

The **Lakkia language** (Chinese: 拉珈语; pinyin: *Lājiāyǔ*), also spelled **Lakkja**, is a Kra–Dai language spoken in Jinxiu Yao Autonomous County, Laibin, east-central Guangxi, China.

Lakkia speakers are thought to have migrated from further east, possibly from the Biao-speaking areas of northwestern Guangdong province (L.-Thongkum 1992). Today, they live mostly in the Dayaoshan (Chinese: 大瑶山; lit.: 'Big Yao Mountain') region of Jinxiu County.

	Lakkia
	Lakkja
Native to	China
Region	Jinxiu Yao Autonomous County, Guangxi
Native speakers	9,000 (2007) ^[1]
Language family	Kra–Dai <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ unclassified; Kam–Sui ? ▪ Lakkia
	Language codes
ISO 639-3	lbc
Glottolog	lakk1238 (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/lakk1238) ^[2]

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Names

Lakkia people are also known as the *Cháshān Yáo* 茶山瑶, meaning "Tea Mountain Yao", since they were traditionally considered by neighboring peoples to be ethnic Yao people. The name *Lakkia* is an autonym (self-designated name) that means "mountain people". All Lakkia dialects have 5 tones.

Classification

There is currently no consensus on the classification of Lakkia within the Kra–Dai family. Solnit (1988) and Hansell (1988) classify Lakkia as a sister of the Kam–Sui branch. Additionally, Solnit (1988) classifies Biao and Lakkia together as part of a Biao-Lakkia branch that is coordinate to Kam-Sui. However, L.-Thongkum (1992) considers Lakkia to be most closely related to the Tai branch, based on the large number of shared lexical items.

Dialects

Dialects of Lakkia include (L.-Thongkum 1992):

- Jintian 金田
- Liula 六拉
- Jinxiu 金秀
- Lingzu 岭祖
- Changdong 长峒

The Lingzu dialect still preserves /kl-/ initial clusters, which corresponds to /kj-/ in most other dialects (L.-Thongkum 1992). Additionally, Changdong 长洞 and Jintian 金田 tone /\ (51) corresponds to Jinxiu 金秀 tone /\ (231). Also, L.-Thongkum (1992) reports that Jintian 金田 is a less conservative dialect.

Distribution

Lakkia is spoken in the following locations.^[3]

- **Jinxiu Township 金秀镇:** Jinxiu 金秀, Baisha 白沙, Liula 六拉, Xidi 昔地, Changtan 长滩, Chang'er 长二, Zhaibao 賽保, Yangliu 杨柳, Liuduan 六段, Jiangjun 将军, Sanpian 三片, Tiancun 田村, Liucun 劉村, Shecun 社村, Mengcun 孟村, Meicun 美村, Jincun 金村, Jintian 金田, Luomeng 罗梦
- **Changdong Township 长洞乡:** Changdong 长洞, Gufang 古放, Pingdao 平道, Daojiang 道江, Dishui 滴水, Rongdong 容洞
- **Sanjiao Township 三角乡:** Liuding 六定
- **Zhongliang Township 忠良乡:** Lingzu 岭祖, Bale 巴勒
- **Luoxiang Township 罗香乡:** Pingzhu 平竹

See also

- [List of Proto-Lakkia reconstructions \(Wiktionary\)](#)

Notes

1. [Lakkia](https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/lbc/) (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/lbc/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "[Lakkia](http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/lakk1238)" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/lakk1238>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. Guangxi Minority Languages Orthography Committee. 2008. *Vocabularies of Guangxi ethnic languages* [广西民族语言方音词汇]. Beijing: Nationalities Publishing House [民族出版社].

References

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Further reading

- Fan, Wenjia (2019). *A Grammar of Lakkja, South China* (Ph.D. thesis). The University of Melbourne. [hdl:11343/233407](https://hdl.handle.net/11343%2F233407) (<https://hdl.handle.net/11343%2F233407>).
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- Solnit, David B. 1988. "The position of Lakkja within Kadai." In *Comparative Kadai: Linguistic studies beyond Tai*, Jerold A. Edmondson and David B. Solnit (eds.). pages 219-238. Summer Institute of Linguistics Publications in Linguistics 86. Dallas: Summer Institute of Linguistics and the University of Texas at Arlington.
- Su Defu [苏德富], et al. 1992. Chashan Yao yanjiu wenji 茶山瑤研究文集. Beijing: [Minzu University](#): 中央民族学院出版社.

External links

- ABVD: Proto-Lakkja word list (<http://language.psy.auckland.ac.nz/austronesian/language.php?id=697>)
 - ABVD: Lakkja (Jinxiu) word list (<https://web.archive.org/web/20160518113647/http://language.psy.auckland.ac.nz/austronesian/language.php?id=754>)
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